IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

Claims 1-34: Canceled

35. (New) A capillary apparatus for analyzing a medium, comprising:

a pipette, said pipette having a diaphragm containing at least one pore of a given radius; and

a pump, said pump producing a reduced pressure in said pipette wherein said produced reduced pressure does not go below a critical pressure at which the surface tension of a liquid present at said at least one pore of said diaphragm would be overcome.

36. (New) The capillary apparatus according to claim 35, further comprising a pump controller controlling said pump and said reduced pressure produced by said pump.

37. (New) The capillary apparatus according to claim 35, wherein said critical pressure within said pipette is defined by:

$$P=2 \cdot S/r$$

where S denotes said surface tension of said liquid present in said at least one pore, and r denotes said given radius of said at least one pore.

38. (New) The capillary apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the medium to be analyzed is said liquid.

39. (New) The capillary apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the medium to be analyzed is not said liquid.

40. (New) The capillary apparatus according to claim 35, wherein said diaphragm is hydrophilic or hydrophobic.

41. (New) A method for analysing a medium, the method comprises:

providing a pipette, said pipette having a diaphragm containing at least one pore of a given radius; and

producing a reduced pressure in said pipette, wherein said produced reduced pressure does not go below a critical pressure at which the surface tension of a liquid present at said at least one pore of said diaphragm would be overcome.

42. (New) The method according to claim 41, the method further comprises the step of controlling said pump and said reduced pressure produced by said pump by using a pump controller.

43. (New) The method according to claim 41, wherein said critical pressure within said pipette is defined by:

$$P=2\cdot S/r$$

where S denotes said surface tension of said liquid present in said at least one pore, and r denotes said given radius of said at least one pore.

44. (New) The method according to claim 41, wherein the medium to be analyzed is said liquid.

45. (New) The method according to claim 41, wherein the medium to be analyzed is not said liquid.

46. (New) The method according to claim 41, which further comprises configuring said diaphragm to be hydrophilic or hydrophobic.